

COUNTY OF PLACER
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION MEETING
March 14, 2002

MINUTES

Attendees (Commissioners & Staff):

Dr. Richard Burton	Commission Chair & Placer County Health Officer
Raymond Merz	Commissioner & Director of Placer County Health & Human Services
Joe DePietro	Commissioner & Educational Representative
Tamara Lieberman	Commissioner & Program Officer Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation
Don Ferretti	CFC Coordinator & Health and Human Services Administration
Nancy Baggett	Health & Human Services – CFC Staff Systems Analysts
Sabrina Thompson	County Counsel
David Gray	Placer Institute, Consultant

Commissioners & Staff Not in Attendance:

Jill Harper	Commission Vice Chair & PCOE Administrator of Child Development Programs
Sandra Naylor-Goodwin	Commissioner & Director for the California Institute for Mental Health.

Public:

Vicky Spannagel	Placer County/HHS
Francine Nunes	PCOE - Childcare
Judy Moore	Greater Collaborative
Debra Lambrecht	Caring About Kids
Pat Orme	Placer County HHS/Community Health
Tom Grayson	Golden Sierra Life Skills
Tammy Gilbert-Slade	Golden Sierra Life Skills
Darlene Jackson	Sierra College
Gail Tondettar	Placer County HHS
Janice Critchlow	Greater Collaborative
Phebe Bell	Children's Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee
Caroline Hickson	Placer County DHHS/Colfax
Paula Peach	Music Collaborative
Francine Nunes	PCOE
Jackie Kampp	HHS/Community Health & Breastfeeding Coalition
Rebecca French	HHS/ASOC

I. Call to Order

Chair Dr. Richard Burton called the Children and Families Commission Meeting to order at 4:48 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Ray Merz moved to approve the agenda, and Commissioner Joe DePietro seconded, all in favor. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved.

III. Minutes

Joe DePietro moved to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2002 meeting, Commissioner Ray Merz seconded, all in favor. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved

IV. New Business

V. Old Business-

VI. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Ray Merz, introduced Sabrina Thompson, who will be replacing Jo McCormack as Counsel to the Commission.

VI. Program Coordinator Report

February 22 CFC Planning Workshop

The commission and advisory committee members met on February 22 in a day long workshop to discuss the past, present and immediate future of the CFC. Don provided a “Notes and Actions” handout for everyone in attendance at the CFC meeting. Additionally, he proceeded to give a brief overview of the workshop. He reported that it was a very interactive workshop in which participants discussed “where we have been”, “where we are” and “where we ought to be”.

Don reviewed the themes that emerged from the workshop, how partnerships are working together in a network model and how we are now starting to acquire information from our partners that will tell us how we are doing on our quest for results. He talked about how CFC has an opportunity to design an organization that can blend the hierarchy model with a network model—and how it is important to authentically engage people who are interested in the 0-5 population. There were many suggestions toward that effort at the February 22 Planning meeting. Don and his staff will start implementing these themes and will bring back any action items that are necessary for this initiative to move forward. The themes that staff, CFC and community will be working on are:

WHERE IS IT THAT THE CFC OUGHT TO BE GOING?

- Act as a “convener of community meetings” where stakeholder representation from the whole system can be in the same place at the same time, and be strategic.
- Suspend any additional Request for Results processes while we look at what we have done so far. Focus on the results we are getting. Evaluate ourselves, and our Partner Network. Use this information for future investments in results – not just grant making.
- Explore an organizational model for the CFC that utilizes existing resources to support a results-oriented partner network model. One where there is a network of equals working within a shared purpose. Rethink the MOU with HHS.
- Convene and facilitate groups (using Open Space and other inclusive processes) around the outcome areas in the strategic plan. Empower these groups with resources to achieve results.
- Identify and evaluate what other organizations and agencies are contributing towards the outcomes desired by the CFC not just the funded Partners.
- Develop stronger relations between CFC members and its Partner Network. Convene quarterly meetings and other venues to bring the CFC members and its Partner Network closer together.
- How can we legitimately bring teens/youth on the CFC? Teens are the bridge. Look at a way to involve them on the CFC in a decision-making role.
- Sustain the notion of the whole child in whole families in whole communities.

- Develop a way to invest resources in results instead of making grants (possibly an Open Space model) without doing an R4R process or any other type of RFP, RFA, or RFQ, etc.
- Create an Operations Committee to make tactical decisions. Involve the CFC, and its advisory groups in this. Develop a Charter for the group authorizing it to make tactical decisions on behalf of the CFC and have it approved by the CFC.
- CFC and advisory members mentor another to this paradigm shift.
- Policy discussion of a long-term intervention strategy for deep-end up to early intervention. Look at prevention among high-risk deep-end populations.
- Sustainability beyond evaluation. Sustain a long-term view with a results orientation. What's in place after we aren't here?
- Can we create an endowment to maintain Prop 10 resources for future generations?
- Create a speaker's bureau.

Joe DePietro talked about the high level of energy and creativity at the planning meeting and that he viewed the planning session as a seeding for the future. He sees the direction/creation of an Operations Committee, which would bring things more into the community as a good thing for the commission. Further, he felt that people would become more involved in the day-to-day activities as a result of this. And that CFC would have more of a "community interweaving" rather than just its monthly meeting presence. He was anxious to see what the future would bring.

Application Review Committee Report – The Application Review Committee met on March 5th and developed recommendations for applications received under the 2001-02 Request for Results process.

Commissioner, Ray Merz, communicated to the group that if there were any applicants in attendance that desired to address the ARC's recommendations regarding the Request for Proposals, they could do so. Two applicants did address the commission (Caring About Kids and The Breastfeeding Coalition).

Joe DePietro moved Ray Merz seconded, and all were in favor-- that the ARC's recommendations for funding be approved as follows:

Approved for Funding Now:

The following are approved and staff will meet with these new partners to agree on data development plans and contracts.

Music Collaborative - \$135,000

An opportunity to make music accessible, to bring music back to kid's lives, and to reach into rural communities. Various strategies will be used such as teaching pre-school, kindergarten teachers, and childcare providers how to bring music into their classrooms; training music teachers to train preschool teachers and child care providers; providing community concerts throughout the county; providing scholarships so that more children can participate in music lessons.

PEACE for Families - \$39,873

Case coordination for mothers of 0-5 in the domestic violence shelter to ensure that child care, and child development needs are met in addition to coordinating other services to improve family functioning during their stay in the shelter.

Tahoe Truckee Unified School District – Dental Health - \$75,740

A collaboration with Nevada County to create a regional children's dental health program to assist in the treatment of the most severely affected children and create a comprehensive, collaborative program of prevention, education and outreach for all children in the region. (2 years)

Golden Sierra Life Skills – Men, Infants & Children Program - \$57,308

An opportunity to help young men who have become or are about to become fathers to learn life skills and have access to resources that will help them reach their full potential and participate in raising their children. (2 years)

Sierra Nevada Children's Museum – Kid Zone - \$15,000

To increase opportunities for children to access the KidZone and participate in activities designed to achieve greater levels of development in gross motor skills.

Health & Human Services Adult System of Care - \$40,000

Funds for planning that are necessary to develop a coordinated continuum of care for substance abusing women who are pregnant or parenting very young children. There is a need for a community-based team of committed partners to assess needs and evaluate ways to close gaps in services available to this population.

Caring About Kids – Mentoring - \$42,000

To provide mentors who will work with pre-kindergarten children in the Raising a Reader program; mentor and provide healthy role models for pregnant and parenting teens. It is recommended that the CFC assist Caring About Kid's staff in convening their court partners to upgrade resources needed for the CASA program. (2 years)

California Shock/Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR) - \$14,000

A speaker's bureau will be created increase the level of services provided by first responders in pediatric emergencies. The bureau will provide educational symposiums for emergency medical personnel that will address issues pertaining to life saving modalities and techniques for pediatric patients.

Work With These Organizations to Find Alternative Funding and/or Connect to Existing Services/Resources:

Although funding for the following programs is not approved at this time, the commission requested that staff analyze the CFC financial projections for this and next year, and that the committee review these application sin that context. There is a possibility that funding that was originally slated for next year might be used to fund some of these that do not have other sources of funding. First, however, a recommendation regarding the funding available for the ARC negotiations with these applicants will be brought back to the commission for their approval before the ARC spends time on this project.

Breastfeeding Coalition - \$67,000

Pregnant women will be fully informed about the advantages of breastfeeding for themselves, their infants and be aware of resources to assist them in continuing to breastfeed for six months and beyond. The coalition is a current partner. (2 years)

Rocklin Unified School District – Pre-school opportunities for children with special needs - \$46,700

Handicapped pre-schoolers integrating with non-handicapped pre-schoolers in a supportive and developmentally appropriate environment. (2 years)

Waldorf Live Oak School - \$31,485

To provide another series of parenting seminars featuring noted speakers on brain development. The seminars would be provided for parents, educators, childcare providers and health care professionals. This organization is a current partner.

Safe Kids Coalition - \$26,000

To increase care givers' knowledge and skills, as well as safety devices and referral information necessary to keep children in their care safe from unintentional injuries related to: fire and scald burns, bicycle and pedestrian activity, motor vehicle occupancy, poisonings, falls, choking, suffocation, strangulation, fire arms and drowning. (2 years)

Ride to Walk - \$45,000

To provide recreational activities and family supports particularly horseback riding for children with special needs. (2 years)

Health & Human Services Managed Care - \$65,000

The community and families with children at risk of not reaching developmental milestones due to disabilities and other special needs will know how to obtain information, referral resources, coordinated services and support. (2 years)

Loomis Co-op - \$43,485

To bring a playground up to safe standards and make it accessible to handicapped children.

Not Approved for Funding:

Child Abuse Prevention Council – Healthy Families Insurance - \$35,000

To increase enrollment in the Healthy Families Insurance Program (2 years).

H. Clark Powers School - \$13,000

To create a supplemental Art Docent and Literacy Program for K-6 children (6 months).

There was a general discussion about the ARC's recommendations. A couple key issues evolved out of that discussion:

1. The Commissioners asked Don Ferretti to explore the possibility of borrowing from next year's funding. Perhaps the ARC could take a look at those applications in the category of "Work With These Organizations to Find Alternative Funding and/or Connect to Existing Services/Resources" and come back with follow-up recommendations.
2. That the committee appointed to look at the applications for \$5,000 and under (Joe De Pietro, Don Ferretti & David Gray) also take a look at the true intention of this type of small "grant" - for example, what are reasonable outcome expectations, making the application and payment process easier for applicants and staff, etc. Ray Merz moved, and Tamara seconded with all in favor that the committee bring back recommendations on the intention of the "5 & under" and a process that will help achieve that intention.

VIII. County Counsel Report

Nothing to report at this session

IX. Public Comment

Francine: She stated state that 369 Childcare Providers attended the Provider Forum to participate in the CARES/AB212 Provider Retention Stipend Program. Friday 3/15/02 is the final day to apply to participate. The project is going well. She is looking forward to the next phase of the project.

Janice Critchlow: She wanted to thank the individual who came up with “thank you” to Outcome Faire participants. Also, she thought the faire concept was a great idea.

Joe DePietro: He would like to have some type of name card for participants of the CFC meetings because there are so many people he does not recognize.

Nancy Baggett: She announced that Chana Teen Parenting Program wanted to extend an open invitation for everyone to visit the facility anytime. Also, the Multi Disciplinary Interview Center is having an open house and dedication on April 11 from 4 to 6 PM

Due to the MDIC open house and Pilots to Policy 2002 Conference April 11-12, in Oakland, the next CFC meeting was moved to April 18 same time and location.

The Placer County Children and Families Commission Meeting Was Adjourned at 6:27 p.m.